Rhetorical Analysis Outline

**INTRODUCTION (1st paragraph):**

1st sentence: Template (from the sample essay)

2nd sentence:

* purpose for essay
* author’s credentials
* author’s full name (spelled correctly)
* title of the text—italicized (NO BOLD, NO QUOATION MARKS, NO UNDERLINED)

The rest of the introduction is a template (from the sample essay)

**SUMMARY (2nd paragraph):**

1st sentence:

* Author
* Title
* Genre
* author’s credentials (different than the introduction)

All sentences to follow: Summary of the text, rhetorical précis is okay, but not mandatory

MANDATORY:

* author’s purpose for writing
* intended audience
* the desired effect on the audience (call to action)

**AUTHOR’S ASSUMPTIONS AND VALUES (3rd paragraph):**

1st sentence: Template (from the sample essay)

2nd sentence: The author’s assumption, written as a claim

The rest of this paragraph is evidence to support the author’s assumption claim.

You should have at least 2 pieces of evidence to support this claim.

The following questions should be answered within this paragraph:

* What are the author’s assumptions and/or biases? What makes this statement an assumption and/or bias?
* What evidence can you provide to prove such biases?
* Based on the limited knowledge you have on the author, why would this author have this assumption and/or bias?

**STRUCTURE (4rth paragraph):**

1st sentence: Template (from the sample essay)

2nd sentence:

* author
* genre
* topic/title of the section which you will analyze
* statement about the author’s use of structure written as the claim

The rest of this paragraph is evidence to support the claim of author’s use of structure.

You should have at least 2 pieces of evidence to support this claim.

The following questions should be answered within this paragraph:

* Where are rhetorical elements (claims, evidence, and rhetorical strategies) located on the text?
* Why were they placed there? What purpose does it serve?
* Why did the author decide to write the text in this format versus another style?

Evidence #1:

* Provide evidence through an example from the text
* Use correct citation include a quote and page number
* Explain how this evidence furthers the author’s claim

Evidence #2:

* Provide evidence through an example from the text
* Use correct citation include a quote and page number
* Explain how this evidence furthers the author’s claim

**RHETORICAL STRATEGIES/DEVICES (5th paragraph):**

1st sentence: Template (from the sample essay)

2nd sentence: Introduce the 2 rhetorical devices you will analyze

The rest of the paragraph:

Evidence #1:

* Define the rhetorical device you will discuss
* Provide evidence through an example from the text where the rhetorical device appears
* Use correct citation include a quote and page number
* Explain how this rhetorical device furthers the author’s claim

Evidence #2:

* Define the rhetorical device you will discuss
* Provide evidence through an example from the text where the rhetorical device appears
* Use correct citation include a quote and page number
* Explain how this rhetorical device furthers the author’s claim

Evidence #1:

* Provide evidence through an example from the text
* Use correct citation include a quote and page number
* Explain how this evidence furthers the author’s claim

Evidence #2:

* Provide evidence through an example from the text
* Use correct citation include a quote and page number
* Explain how this evidence furthers the author’s claim

**CONCLUSION (6th paragraph):**

Sentences 1-4: Template \*Remember to omit the Aristotle sentence\*

The following questions should be answered within this paragraph:

1. Who cares?—Intended audience
2. Why should we care?—Purpose for the essay
3. What did you gain from writing this essay?—Reflection of the writing process
4. What do you expect the reader to gain from reading your essay?—Reflection as a writer